THE MINES OF EAST KOOTENAY, ARE RICH IN GOLD, SILVER COPPER AND LEAD.

The Prospector.

THE PROSPECTOR HAS THE LARGEST CIRCULATION OF ANY NEWS PAPER IN EAST KOOTENAY.

Vol. 2. FORT STEELE, B. C. SATURDAY, DECEMBER 12, 1896. No 22.

A chiel's amang you takin notes,
And faith he'l print them,

LOGAL NEWS.

FORT STEELE WEATHER REPORT

TEMPERATURE.

DEC.	MAXIMUM	MINIMUM
3	38. 0	9. 7
4	45. 1	28. 3
5	42. 9	34. 7
6	30. 5	20. 5
7	45. 0	23. 4
8	47. 3	39. 6
9	51. 6	33. 9

S. W. wind and rain, followed by fair weather, for the most part cloudy. Snow melted in the open.

Observer—Dr. Charles McLean.

It's all over town! "MUD."

The Chinook came and the snow has gone.

Don't forget the little one's on Xmas.

Renew your subscription to the Prospector.

It is reported that a Montreal syndicate has purchased the Midnight.

William Forsyth is building an addition to his cottage on Main street.

A. W. Bleasdell the Druggist is having a sidewalk put in front of his store.

Two teams are on their way in from Kalispell with freight for Johnson & Co.

Discourse for next Sunday evening's reading will be the "World's Dream of Happiness."

Don't forget your friends at Xmas. Select a nice Xmas card at Bleasdell's and mail it. It saves writing.

A large and attentive congregation listened to Mr. Galbraith's discourse last Sunday evening. The subject was "Salvation."

Divine service next Sunday evening at 7-30 o'clock. Mr. Armstrong Lay Reader will likely officiate.

Another new house is under construction, report has it, that it will be occupied by a mining syndicate of broker's.

There will be a special meeting of the Fort Steele Mining Association on December 19th all members are requested to be present.

Fort Steele mining district offers the best opportunities for safe investment in mines, of any like area in the Dominion of Canada.

George B. Watson and George Hoggarth left for Spokane per Kalispell stage. They are not likely to return before the spring.

Constable Barnes left this morning for Golden and will return with Mr. Armstrong S. M. Tom Fenwick is acting Jailor pro. tem.

A house will shortly be built with all the modern improvements, for one of our bachelors citizens. "Coming events cast their shadows before them."

Mr. Finch of the Fort Steele Saw Mill Co. returned from Kalispell on Tuesday. He says business is improving at the latter place.

Two teams came in from Golden on Monday last. One loaded with goods for Carlin & Durick and the other for A. W. Bleasdell the Druggist who has now a full assortment of fresh Drugs.

Freeman & Little of the Dalgardno stable have recently added to their stock of Vehicles a handsome cutter of a very bright color, it fills a long felt want.

The Saw Mill Co. have their Mill and Machinery all under cover, and will run all winter, in order to fill the orders now on hand. So far they have been unable to supply the demand.

Recorder Goldie of Windermere, who is a personal friend of the Premier's has written a letter to him, strongly urging upon him the necessity of continuing the weekly mail service from Golden. We hope it will have the desired effect.

William Carlin left by special conveyance for Minnesota on Saturday where he will eat his Xmas turkey with his relatives. His many friends at Fort Steele wish him a pleasant trip and a quick return to the land of his adoption.

An indignation meeting should be called in relation to the inadequacy of the mail service, and an earnest and forcible expression of the residents of Fort Steele sent to our member.

The Fort Steele mining district has attracted the attention of capital, but we fail to find it recorded that our member has had his attention directed to the proper mail facilities for this district.

It is about time something was done to improve the Kootenay river. "procrastination is the thief of time," and when navigation openes it will be to late for the shipment of the vast amount of ore that will be mined this year.

The Kalispell stage came in on Monday. George Watson and P. Larson were passengers. Mr. Striker reports that Captain Tom Flowers is busily engaged in putting in a new bridge at Elk river. Tom is a great rustler and surely deserves credit for his enterprise in trying to make Elk river passable for teams.

A special (illustrated) number of the Prospector will be issued on the 26th inst, it will form a handsome Xmas souvenir to send to absent friends, a full and complete description of the mines of the district will be set forth in an interesting manner. It is the hope of the Publisher's that their efforts will prove a benefit to the mining and general business interests of this district.

THE OUTLOOK FOR 1897.

The present indications are that the mining industries of this district will be increased to a large extent during the coming year. It is an assured fact that at least four large companies will work at placer mining on Wild Horse creek during the coming year; also one on Perry creek. and operations will commence as soon as the season will permit.

Prospectors and miners are at work placing their property in condition for inspection, and if investors will come and see our mines, examine and sample them they will surely invest, we have rich mines, and as good mineral property as there is in any country.

SUBSCRIBE FOR
THE PROSPECTOR.

The Feast of St. Nicholas was duly observed at St. Eugene Mission last Monday. The services were solemn and impressive after which the large congregation adjourned to a large room in the Industrial school where a nice address was presented to the Rev'd Father Coccola, expressive of the pupils good will and affectionate feeling towards him, the Rev'd Father who was completely taken by surprise, thanked those present for the address and expressed the hope that the pleasant ties that bound principal and pupils, pastor and people might not soon be severed. The remainder of the day was pleasantly spent in a sleigh ride as far as the Indian Agency where the party was very warmly received by Agent Galbraith. The children returned to the Inductrial school singing suitable songs on the way and delighted with their outing, and with the wish that St. Nicholas Day might come often.

PUBLIC SCHOOL EXAMINATION

The semi-annual examination of the pupils attending the Public School will be held in the School room on Friday the 18th of December at 1-30 o'clock P.M. A cordial invitation is extended to the parents of the children and those interested in Education.

MINING NEWS

THE MIDNIGHT SOLD.

George B. Watson who has just returned from Spokane reports the sale of the above claim to a Montreal syndicate for $20-000 cash. The claim is one of the most promising ones in the North Star group and is supposed to be in a direct line with the North Star pay shute where ore to the value of $90 per ton has been taken out. We congratulate our Montreal friends in having secured this most desirable property, and we are pleased to see that Canadians are not going to let our American cousins have the whole "plum." There are several properties on this group equally as promising, which we understand are likely to be sold to Victoria parties.

MOYEA GROUP.

On the St. Eugene, Messr's Finch & Cronin has two men working during the winter, six hundred feet of tunnelling has been done, and they are now sinking a shaft through ore from the upper to the lower tunnel, a distance of 100 feet. At present there is about 4,000 tons of ore on the dump, and fully 12,000 in sight which assays about 55 oz. in silver and 68 per cent lead.

On theLakeShore a 30ft. tunnel has been run, showing a large amount of galena in place, it is expected that the owners of this property will ship ore during the coming season.

RAMS HORN.

This property was located by Grundy Aukhus last fall. A cut has been run in for some distance on the ledge showing carbonates and galena, the ledge is abont 20 feet in width. We learn that property has been bonded for $30,000,

SULLIVAN GROUP.

There are about 34 claims in the Sullivan Group, the original locations, Hamlet, Shylock, and Hope have a fine showing of galena, a shaft is down 30 feet, passing through 6 feet of carbonates, the bottom of the shaft being in solid galena, which assays 59 oz. in silver and 60 per cent lead. Ore in a kidney form is found on the following claims in this group Gem, Stony, Gift, Bluch, Galore, X Rays and Stormy. There is no reason to doubt that this mountain has an immense body of silver lead ore underlaying the glacier deposits on the surface.

The North Star mine has 30 men engaged in taking out carbonates, a large number of teams are engaged in hauling them to the companies landing on the river. It is reported that 6000 tons will be shipped during the coming year.

Assessment and development work has been done on numerous claims situated on Bull river, Sand creek and Elk river. It is the intention of the owners of several of these properties to have ore ready for shipment next season.

DIBBLE GROUP.

Quite a number of men are engaged in taking out ore on this property for shipment as soon as navigation will permit.

We wish to draw the attention of Prospectors & Miners, to the formation of C. F. Venosta & Co. as a company to do business as Mining Brokers and Commission Agents. We learn that they wish to sell property on commission only, that no options given to them will be sold at advanced prices. Every man with a claim for sale should leave a description of such with price etc. on the books of the company as it is the intention to have agents in London, New York, Chicago, St. Paul, Montreal and Toronto. Then our examiner will assure that the description of the claims are correct, so that they will have great opportunities for the disposal of mining property, and when we take into consideration the total absence of any such facilities in favor of the Prospectors of this section heretofore. We trust that the company will receive a full measure of support. Large and commodious offices are being erected, where a good collection of mineral samples will be kept together with the leading mining Journals in a reading room. An assay office in connection will complete this establishment. The company includes E. A. Elton, N. A. Wallinger and C. F. Venosta.

The Miners and Prospectors of Fort Steele are looking forward to a large influx of capital in the spring, owing to the fact that a large number of claims have been sold, others under bond, and the desire of parties to get hold of good property in a good mineral district.

What is the matter with our mail service? nothing wrong with the service. The trouble is at Ottawa.

READ
THE PROSPECTOR.

CARLIN & DURICK.

Dealers in

DRY GOODS,
CLOTHING,
Boots & Shoes,

MINING SUPPLIES & HARDWARE,

Highest Price Paid For Raw Furs.

N. HANSON.

GENERAL MERCHANT AND LIQUOR DEALER.

Manufacturer of all kinds of LUMBER.

A large assortment of seasoned lumber and shingles constantly on hand.

Dimension Timber a Specialty.

WASA, B. C.

THE QUEEN'S HOTEL.

Two Commodious Sample Rooms for Commercial Men

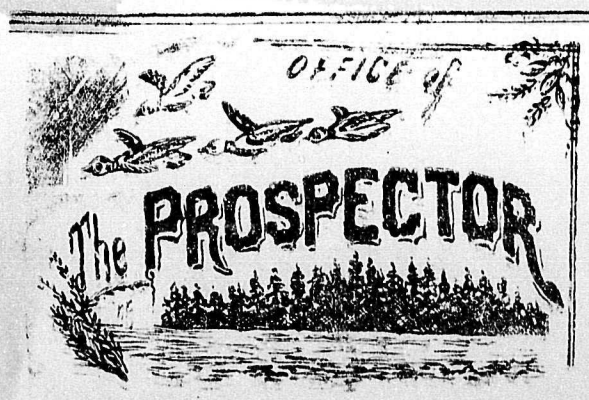
BAGGAGE TRANSFERRED FREE

HOT & COLD BATHS RATES $2 PER DAY.

J. C. Greene, Proprietor.

GOLDEN, B. C.

Fort Steele Mining Division, East Kootenay, B.C.



THE PROSPECTOR,

—o—

IS PUBLISHED WEEKLY BY THE PROSPECTOR COMPANY.

A. B. GRACE, MANAGER.

Devoted to the upbuilding of Fort Steele, the development of the vast mineral resources of the East Kootenay mining district.

Subscriptions, ... $1.50 per year.

Advertiseing rates made known on application.

Contributions are solicited from all parts of the district, but all matter intended for publication must have the writers signature.

FORT STEELE MINING ASSOCIATION.

R. L. T. Galbraith	President.
O. S. Frizzell.	Vice "
N. A. Wallinger	" "
Robert Dempsey	" "
William Carlin	Treasurer.
Thomas McVittie	Secretary.

DIRECTORS.

John Grassick. A.B.Grace. H.W.Barnes. R.L.T.Galbraith. Thomas McVittie.

The next regular meeting of the association will be held on Saturday, October.

All possible information will be furnished by the Association upon application to

Thomas McVittie, Sec. Fort Steele B.C.

Professional.

CHARLES MACLEAN,

Physician & Surgeon.

FORT STEELE, B. C.

THOMAS McVITTIE.

P.L.S. & C.E.

Fort Steele B.C.

H. L. CUMMINS

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Fort Steele B.C.

W. Pellew. Harvey. F. C. S.

[Mem. Fed. Inst. M & M. E.]

Assay Office & Metallurgical Works.

Vancouver B. C.

Mill tests made on parcels of ore up to 1,000. Lbs in weight.

Prompt returns, and accuracy guaranteed.

READ THE PROSPECTOR.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE PROSPECTOR

NOTICE.

Notice of Application for Certificate of Improvements.

All-Gee Mineral Claim situate in the Fort Steele Mining Division of East Kootenay District. Located on Huckleberry hill, north of the North Star mine.

TAKE NOTICE that R. O. Jennings F. M. C. No. 47998, intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

per R. O. Jennings.

Dated this 14th day of November, 1896.

NOTICE.

DISTRICT OF EAST KOOTENAY.

A COURT of Revision and Appeal under the Assessment Act and amendments will be held at the following places on the following dates.

At the Assessor's Office at Golden on Monday the 30th day of November at ten O'Clock in the forenoon.

At the Assessor's Office at Fort Steele on Friday the 4th day of December at ten O'Clock in the forenoon.

J.F.Armstrong.

Judge of the Court of Revision and Appeal.

DONALD B.C. 23rd October 1896.

NOTICE.

Notice is hereby given that the partnership between Eneos H. Small and David Larmour, is dissolved. David Larmour retiring. The business will be carried on by Eneos H. Small who will pay all debts, and collect accounts due the firm.

The dissolution dates from November 20th, 1896.

Eneos H. Small.

David Larmour.

Witness, Alf. Garret.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sixty days after date I intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of unoccupied Crown lands situated on Perry creek East Kootenay, commencing at the south east corner post running 40 chains north thence 40 chains east, thence 40 chains south thence 40 chains east to the place of commencement.

Dated October 9th, 1896.

J. C. DURICK.

NOTICE!

TAKE NOTICE that sixty days from date I intend to apply to the CHIEF COMMISSIONER of LANDS and WORKS for permission to purchase one hundred and sixty acres of land, more or less. Commencing at a stake N.E. immediately adjoining the N.W. corner stake of Edward Kelly's pre-emption. [Record No.32] on the St. Mary's river thence 40 chains West, thence 40 chains South, thence 40 chains East, thence 40 chains North to Initial Stake.

LOUISA KRATZ.

Dated this 21st, day of September, 1896.

NOTICE.

PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that sixty days after date intend to apply to the Hon. the Chief Commissioner of Lands and Works for permission to purchase 160 acres of land situated on Perry creek East Kootenay, the same being unreserved and unoccupied Crown lands, commencing at the North East corner post running 40 chains south thence 40 chains east thence 40 chains north thence 40 chains to the place of commencement.

Dated October 8th 1896.

A. M. LEITCH.

NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given that application will be made to the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, at its next session, for an act incorporating the Kootenay Power and Light Company Limited, for the purpose of supplying power, light and heat by compressed air and electricity to the inhabitants, cities, towns, mines, smelters and tramways in the East and West Divisions of Kootenay District also to construct maintain and operate, tramway and telephone systems in the said East and West Divisions of Kootenay District and to extend the said systems to other divisions and districts contiguous thereto, and to lay pipes, erect and maintain flumes, poles and stretch wires, for the conveyance and supply of compressed air and electricity as aforesaid, and also for the purpose of generating power, heat and light, as aforesaid to appropriate and use water from Sheep Creek, Kootenay River and its tributaries, and the Columbia River and its tributaries, and to do all such other things as are incidental or conducive to the attainment of the above objects.

Dated at the city of Victoria the 30th day of September, A.D., 1896.

FRANK HIGGINS,

Solicitor for the applicants.

NOTICE.

NOTICE is hereby given that the British Columbia Southern Railway Company will apply to the Parliament of Canada, at its next session, for an Act to declare the said British Columbia Southern Railway Company to be a body corporate and politic within the jurisdiction of the Parliament of Canada, and the Company's railway to be a work for the general advantage of Canada, also to authorize the extension of the line of the said railway from its eastern terminus in the Crow's Nest Pass, across and over the eastern boundary of British Columbia, into the Province of Alberta, thence in an easterly direction to Macleod, or to a point on the Calgary and Macleod Railway, and there to connect with the same, and thence easterly to Lethbridge.

GEMMILL & MAY.

Solicitors for applicants.

Ottawa 18th September 1896.

NOTICE.

Notice of Application for Certificate of Improvements.

The Dean Mineral Claim, situate in the Fort Steele Mining Division of East Kootenay District. Located on Huckleberry hill, north of the North Star mine.

TAKE NOTICE that R.O.Jennings F. M. C. No 47998 intend, sixty days from the date hereof, to apply to the Mining Recorder for a certificate of improvements, for the purpose of obtaining a Crown grant of the above claim.

And further take notice that action, under section 37, must be commenced before the issuance of such certificate of improvements.

per R.O.Jennings.

Dated this 14th day of November, 1896.

NOTICE.

I hereby give notice, that 30 days after date, I intend to apply to the Gold Commissioner for a liscence to sell liquor by retail, on the premises known as the Grand Central Hotel.

A. M. Leitch.

Dated this 18th day of Nov, 1896.

NOTICE.

Application has been made for the transfer of the Liscense of the Dalgardno Hotel, now standing in the name of A. Morin, to R. D. Mather the present proprietor.

R.D.Mather.

Dated this 21st day of Nov. 1896.

.....THE.....

CASSELL GOLD EXTRACTING COMPANY, "Ltd." OF GLASGOW

THE MacARTHUR-FORREST (CYNIDE PROCESS.)

Miners and others wanting ore treated by the Cynide Process should send samples to the Canadian representative,

W. PELLEW HARVEY, F.C.S.

Assay Office & Metallurgical Works.

VANCOUVER B.C.

EAST **Great Northern Railway.** WEST

THE SURVEYOR'S CHAIN MADE IT THE SHORTEST TRANSCONTINENTAL ROUTE

It is the most modern in equipment; it is the heaviest railed line; it has a rock ballast roadbed; it crosses no sand deserts; it was built without a land grant or government aid; it is noted for courtesy of its employes; it is the only line serving meals on the a la carte plan.

THROUGH THE GRANDEST SCENERY IN AMERICA BY DAYLIGHT.

For FORT STEELE and the EAST KOOENAY MINES, Weekly Stage from Kalispell. Steamboat communications from Jennings during Summer. Quickest and Best route to all parts of the United States, Eastern Canada and Europe.

For maps, tickets and complete information call or address nearest agent or

C.G.DIXON, General Agent, Spokane Wash.

F.I.WHITNEY, G. P. and T. A. St. Paul, Minn.

ELECTRICITY AND MINING

The operation of mining apparatus by electricity is daily growing more wide-spread as the steady work of the plants now running, drives home the conviction that by means of electricity mines may be operated more conveniently than by any other system; better work be effected, and greater economy induced. Coal and metal mine operators are animated by no sentimental inclinations in favor of older methods. It is simply a question with them of an outlay and resultant profits, and the electricity driven apparatus is everywhere slowly but effectually displacing apparatus operated by steam or compressed air. Since the General Electric company first entered the field it has kept steadily in view the improvement of its electrically operated mining apparatus and its adaptation to the peculiar conditions of the mining industry. The slow speed moters are recent developments in the moter line made by the company in question and designed for use on direct-current circuits. For outputs greater than five horse power, they present decided advantages over moters of bipolar type. They are compactly built and admit of direct combination with machinery without increasing the space occupied to any great extent. They operate at slower speed than any other moter of similar capacity yet built, and though reduction of speed must necessarily imply increase of weight, yet in this case it is amply compensated for by economy of material effected by the adoption of the four pole type. The frames and fields are of special soft cast steel, which, possessing high magnetic premeability, allow of the construction of a moter lighter than other moters of the same output at higher speed. The armatures are thoroughly ventilated; and the windings of copper wire, first formed and insulated, are embedded in slots in the armature core, and bound securely on the projecting flange of the armature spider. The coils can be easily removed and replaced; the insulation is the excellent result of years of experience. The machines are sparkless, and the load can be varied from nothing to full load without the necessity of shifting the brushes. Precautions are taken to prevent any tendency on the part of the bearings to get out of aligment, and proper contact of brushes with the cummutator is assured by special construction of the brush holders.

"I don't want the wheel. It is too heavy." "Say, I'll throw in a lamp. That'll make it lighter."—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Dr. Jalap—Let me see your tongue, please. Patient—O, doctor, no tongue can tell how bad I feel.—Boston Transcript.

ALUMINUM NICKLE ALLOY

The iron master of today, manipulating the modern cupola furnace and improved paraphernalia, backed up by the scientific knowledge of the Chemist, sees great possibilities in making up the different charges to produce a certain specified grade of metal for a certain class of work.

This method of alloying the metal in the ladle when in a molten state has proven highly satisfactory, for the foundryman knowing what he gets, uses it intelligently, and he can well afford to pay a premium for such an alloy, especially as it relieves him of further responsibility and extra cost of faulty castings.

There are various grades of scrap cast iron which have been melted and remelted until they are depleted of life and strength, because it is cheaper than pig iron; all it requires is to be revived by a metalloid, and any kind of casting can be made out of the scrap that is possible to produce from the best grade of pig iron, providing the foundryman knows the practical value of "Aluminum Nickel Alloy" as a metal strengthener for soft, sound and solid castings.

DUKE OF ORLEANS IS WEDDED.

Marries the Arch Duchess Dorothea in the City of Vienna.

Vienna—At 11 o'clock this morning, in the chapel of Hofburg, Louis Phillipe Robert, duke of Orleans, pretender to the throne of France, was married to the Arch Duchess Dorothea. The guests waited in the chapel the coming of the bridal company, while Emperor Francis Joseph, the queen of Portugal, duke of Orleans, Arch Duchess Maria Dorothea, the members of the imperial house and the foreign princes waited in the mirror hall of the palace.

At the signal from the minister of ceremonies, the cortege traversed the state apartments, which were lined by the life guards, to the chapel, in the following order: The imperial herald, the bridegroom, accompanied by the duke of Chartres and the Arch Duke Josef, father of the arch duchess, they being accompanied by the countess of Paris, the mother of the bridegroom, and the Duchess Clotide, Emperor Francis Josef, the queen of Portugal, duke of Cannaught, representing Victoria, the duchess of Aosta, duke of Aosta, representing King Humbert of Italy, and the Arch Duchess Josef Maria and foreign princes. Amid a flourish of trumpets and rolling of drums, the wedding procession entered the imperial chapel, where they were received by Cardinal Gruscha, the archbishop of Vienna, who sprinkled the procession with holy water.

The bride and groom then knelt at a prie dieu, the wedding rings were blessed and handed to them on a gold salver. After placing the rings on each others fingers the pair clasped hands and were again sprinkled with holy water. Mass was next celebrated, and Te Deum was chanted. At the conclusion of these ceremonies the wedding procession was reformed, led by the bride and bridegroom, and the imperial party returned to their apartments in the palace.

KNEW WHAT HE WANTED

A shallow individual in a faded brown overcoat sat down on a stool at one of the railway lunch counters the other morning and said to the proprietor:

"Give me a cup of coffee and one of your expurgated sandwiches."

"What kind?" asked the proprietor.

"Expurgated," rejoined the other. "One of those vacum sandwiches for which your establishment is justly celebrated."

"I have'nt any kind but those under that glass cover."

"That's all right. That's the particular variety I want."

He helped himself to one of them and lifted off the upper lid.

"This is what I call a sandwich, nit," he observed, eyeing it critically, yet approvingly. "There's nothing supererogatory about it. It's one of those hiatus sandwiches. It's a sandwich with an alibi," he added, replacing the lid, and studying the outer surface of it intently. "It's an absent sandwich. It's a sandwich that failed to arrive. I have seen times when I would have given worlds to——"

"Say," interrupted the proprietor, "if you don't like that sandwich you need'nt eat it. That's all there is about it."

"Who said I did'nt like it? Did'nt I call for it? I generally know what I want. For this particular occasion, and for this specific luncheon, I happen to want one of your negative sandwiches—one of your shadowy, deflated, dream sandwiches, and like a man, sir, I call for it. Anything wrong about that?"

"You needn't get gay," grumbled the man behind the counter. "Did you order coffee?"

"I did. Give me, if you please, a cup of your best supposititious coffee."

"I've only got one kind of coffee," replied the sulky caterer.

"That's the kind I want. A cup of your universally admired non-existent coffee—your famous nullification coffee. Accompanied, if you please, by a small pitcher of your vague phantasmal, visionary, depopulated cream. I am fasting today."

And while the man in the faded brown coat munched the sandwich and sipped the coffee in a slow, absent-minded way, the proprietor stared at him, and breathed hard, and longed to throw him out of the window.

FLASHES.

"I suppose you have music at the hotel?" "No, but we have a band."—Harper's Bazar.

"Now, Jonnie, go and wash your face. Auntie will call this afternoon." "But what if she doesn't call?"—Brooklyn Life.

Hoax—Say, lend me $10 for a day will you? Joax—I've only got $1. Hoax—Well, lend me that for ten days.—Philadelphia Record.

"Darling, you are the apple of my eye." "I don't see how that can be. A moment ago you said I was a peach."—New York World.

READ THE PROSPECTOR.

SUBSCRIBE FOR THE PROSPECTOR.

A LUNATIC BALL.

As this story traveled in a roundabout way it may have been elaborated and built up before it came to hand, but the facts, as nearly as they can be learned, are about as follows:

Mr. Melton, a young man interested in the lumber trade, traveled on a suburban train one Friday night to attend the weekly dance at the asylum for the insane.

Mr. Melton is constantly longing for "experiences." He would rather look at an opium joint than a donation party, and would rather go slumming than attend a Sunday school picnic. The ball at the insane asylum appealed to his love for the picturesque. Lowery, the politician, had promised to take him out, and Melton had not allowed him to forget his promise.

Lowery came aboard the train at one of the stations on the way but, and the two were warmly welcomed when they arrived at the asylum, for this Lowery was a companionable man of considerable influence.

As Melton stood in the doorway of the ballroom and glanced at the rows of well behaved and rather abashed people against the wall, he could scarcely believe he was so different from the others. He reflected that if he were to arise some morning and tell the other boarders that he was the emperor of China and had more money than he could use, he might become one of this company.

Except that many of them were pale and melancholy and a few of them were heavy eyed and intent on studying the floor, the assemblage would have compared favorably with any chance gathering of respectable every day people.

He knew, of course, that the violent patients or those totally demented were not allowed at the ball. The company was made up of convalescents or those whose vision was merely twisted so that they could not see things in their proper relation. Some of the younger men had attired themselves with particular care and wore buttonhole boquets. Many of the women, too, bore the outward signs of gayety. Melton was rather disappointed. He had wanted to witness something "uncanny."

"I want you to dance this evening," said Superintendent Lucas, standing at his elbow. "One trouble with the visitors is that they stand around and stare at the patients as if they were a lot of freaks. Now, these people are not dangerous. You needn't believe anything they tell you; but if you mix up with them and are friendly you'll find them very easy to get along with. Come on, I'll introduce you to some of them."

The little orchestra was tuning up, and a patient who had been installed as floor manager was giving a correct imitation of a sane man who had been thrown under the same trying responsibility.

Melton had attended many evening parties, but he felt a new embarassment as he passed along a line of demure women patients and bowed to each of them in turn. He shook hands with several of the men, and then backed up to the wall to watch the opening. The superintendent, standing beside him, said:

"Oh, by the way, you must meet Miss Caldwell."

He beckoned to a young woman who was talking to the leader of the orchestra, and as she came across the room Melton whistled to himself and said:

"Here's a case of blighted love, and she's not over 20."

"Miss Caldwell, I want to present Mr. Melton," said the superintendent. "He's rather bashful in company, but perhaps you can entertain him. Now I'll go and look after Lowery."

Melton found himself staring at a very pretty girl who returned his gaze in a half frightened manner.

His head buzzed, and he never before was so much in want of a topic. How was he to begin a conversation with a young woman who might fancy him to be the prince who had come to rescue her from the tower.

"Do you dance?" he asked in a sudden desperation.

She gave a start, and he imagined that she shrunk back a little.

"I'd rather not," said she, timidly.

"Well, then, let's sit over here in the corner, and watch the others."

They found an out-of-the-way place, and Melton, who had recovered a little, remembered the instructions given him by the superintendent.

"These dances are very pleasant little affairs," said he. "They seem to be attended by an agreeable lot of people."

"I think it's a good idea to have them," said she. "You know most of these people, of course."

"I've met a number of them," he replied.

"You like Mr. Lucas, don't you?"

"Very well, indeed. Nice fellow."

"He didn't tell you, did he that I was a cousin of his?"

Mr. Melton began to suspect the nature of her delusion. He resolved to be diplomatic.

"Oh, yes; I knew that," he said. "So you're a cousin of Mr. Lucas?"

"Yes. I'm here visiting him. I've been here about two weeks. Mrs. Lucas is so good to all the people here, isn't she?"

"Yes, indeed. She's very considerate."

Melton now understood the situation. This girl did not know that she was in an asylum. They had told her that she was a visitor.

"It's a nice place to come for a visit," said he. "I came out here with a friend of mine, a gentleman named Lowery. I live in Chicago."

"Oh, yes. Well, I'm sure you'll like it out here."

"I'm sorry I can't stay longer. I'm going back to town tonight on the late train."

"Going away tonight?"

"Yes, I have to go to Milwaukee in the morning."

"Why do you have to go there?"

"I'm going to see about a deal in lumber. I may buy some hardwood lumber up there."

"How much?" she asked.

"Well, she's inquisitive enough," thought he, but he was tolerant, and answered: "Oh perhaps 1,000,000 feet."

"Oh, 1,000,000 feet! Won't that be nice? I hope you'll get it."

Melton was rather amused at her interest in his affairs. He began to question her.

"Will you remain here long?" he asked.

"No, I'm going to leave in a few days and go to New York. I have an Uncle there, and I expect to take a trip with him on a yacht." He resolved to investigate further. He had heard that patients were always willing to talk of their delusions.

"I notice that you are wearing an engagement ring," said he. "So you are to be married, are you?"

For a moment she appeared startled and then laughed heartily.

"I'm engaged to one of the nicest fellows in the world," said she. "You're not jealous, are you?"

This was more than Melton had bargained for. He had been impelled by the curiosity of the student, but he was not enough of the ghoul to have fun with the delusions of an unfortunate girl. He had detected the mechanical tone of her laugh.

"Oh, no," he said hastily. "I congratulate you."

She laughed again.

"If I remain here I'll have her violent," thought he. So he excused himself and hurried over to rejoin Lowery.

As they rode to the city on the late train Melton told Lowery that the most interesting patient he had met was a girl who thought she was only a visitor at the asylum, and who expected to go to New York and ride on a yacht and who saddest of all, wore an engagement ring and really believed she was soon to be married to some nice young man, who existed only in her disordered brain.

No longer ago than last week Melton was at luncheon in a quiet restaurant. He looked up from the bill of fare and saw at the next table—the asylum girl.

She was radiently attired and was chatting gayly with an elderly woman.

"By George she's cured," said Melton to himself. "I wonder if she remembers anything that happened. If she does remember it will be mighty embarrassing if she happens to recognize me."

Then he asked himself whether it would be proper to speak to her in case she recognized him. He knew the society rule as to ball-room introductions. If he spoke to her he would have to refer to their former meeting. That would be painful to both of them.

Suddenly the pretty girl looked toward him and gave a startled "Oh!" and then blushed furiously. He was recognized. He simply stared at the bill of fare to hide his confusion.

The voice of superintendant Lucas aroused him.

"This is Mr. Melton, isn't it? Come over here. I want to tell you a story."

"No, no!" exclaimed the young woman.

But Mr. Lucas, who had come into the restaurant to keep his appointment with the woman, seized Melton by the arm and led him over to the other table.

"Mary," said he to the elderly woman, "this is Mr. Melton, who came out with Lowery that night. Melton, I'm going to tell you this. You've met Miss Caldwell."

The girls face was one fiery blush and she seemed ready to cry.

"Well, sir," said the superintendant, without pity. "She met me that evening you were out there and told me that the most interesting patient she had met was that Mr. Melton. She said you seemed to be all right until you started to talk about lumber."

"I'll never speak to you again," said Miss Caldwell decisively.

"And, by the way," continued Mr. Lucas, "She says you asked her if she was engaged."

"Really, I must apologize," said Melton, a great light breaking in upon him. "I wouldn't have talked that way only I thought—well, you didn't say—I supposed she was one—"

"What!" exclaimed the girl.

Mr. Lucas roared and poor Melton collapsed. Then there was a general understanding. They insisted that he take luncheon with them and he did so, devoting the entire time to a labored explanation—Chicago Record.

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THE C.P.R. AND KOOTENAY

From an interview with Sir William Van Horne published by a contemporary it is evident the Canadian Pacific Railway Company are fully alive to the importance of the Kootenay trade. We never for one moment supposed anything else, although we, like others, were inclined to wonder why the company did not show more activity in building into the district. It seems from what Sir William said the other day while in Vancouver that the Canadian Pacific people have been quietly laying their plans and before the close of another year they will be engaged in great railway undertakings in various parts of Kootenay. In the first place the Crow's Nest Pass road will receive their attention and in connection with it a number of branch lines that are projected will be built to tap the different mining camps. The cost of building these short lines will in the aggregate amount in all probability to as much as that of the main line, and as the Crow's Nest Pass Railway would be almost useless without these feeders it is of the utmost importance that they should be built.

It has been urged in more than one quarter that the Crow's Nest Pass Railroad should be built and operated by the Government. We do not share that opinion because it would mean delay and incompleteness. The experience which the country had with government construction of the Canadian Pacific itself does not encourage us to hope that things would be any better with the Crow's Nest Pass line. Besides this, who would build the feeders already referred to? It is safe to say that the government would not, at least for some years, and in the meantime the Kootenay would suffer from the delay.

The work, of course, might be done by an independant company but the finding of the capitalists to undertake the work and the financing of it would mean delay with a possibility of failure.

We want the Crow's Nest Pass Railway just as soon as it can be built, and we want it to tap every mining camp tributary to it. The only way that this can be done without delay is by having some large corporation like the C.P.R. do the work. Some people think that if the latter should build the road high rates would be the result, but the Government can easily provide against this by arranging the matter beforehand when agreeing to aid the work.

The Government of today at Ottawa may be relied on to look after the best interests of the people, and in giving the building of the Crow's Nest Pass railway to the C. P. R. they may be trusted to see the public properly guarded in any steps they take.

It has become the fashion in some quarters to growl against the C. P. R., and no doubt there is some cause for it. A great corporation like it can hardly please everybody, but Canada as a whole may justly be proud of its national road and take pride in the way it has been managed. If the grumblers will only take a look across the border and see the condition today of nine-tenths of the railways there and compare them with the Canadian Pacific they will see that over the boundary it is mismanagement, robbery and bankruptcy, while with "our road" it is good management and solvency.

To come back to the Kootenay, Sir William Van Horne indicated that this company proposed at an early day to connect Revelstoke and Nelson by rail. The Napusk & Slocan will be extended to connect with the Columbia & Kootenay Railway. Sir William also stated his opinion that the Crow's Nest Pass road would eventually be extended to the Fraser. The whole tone of the interview we have referred to shows that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company is on the eve of active development of a most important character in the Kootenay.

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A WAR SCARE

The Americans Have a New Sensation.

They Are Getting Their Naval Forces in Shape For a Threatened War With Spain—American Friendliness to the Cuban Cause the Pretext for Hostility.

Washington—The interest in the arbitration proceedings between England and the United States over the Venezuelan boundary dispute has now subsided. The sensation of the hour is now caused by the news that this country is putting its naval forces in readiness for a threatened war with Spain. The announcement is that the administration is extremely fearful that the Madrid Government is on the point of committing some hostile act against the United States, using as a pretext the friendly feeling of the Americans for the cause of the Cubans.

A RECIPROCITY TREATY

A Grand Trunk Magnate Thinks McKinley Will Favor One With Canada.

Montreal, Que.—General Manager Hays of the Grand Trunk railway, who has just returned from St. Louis, expresses the opinion that the next president of the United States will do his best to promote friendly relations between the United States and Canada. "I think McKinley's administration," said Mr. Hays, "will be strictly a business one and will be fully alive to any advantages to be obtained from a reciprocity treaty, and as is in fact indicated in their platform they will be willing to negotiate such a treaty. It seems to me there must be many directions in which it would be mutually advantageous. Canadian farmers would have a wider market for their agricultural products, poultry, eggs, butter and cheese. American coal miners would be afforded more ready access in the interest of Canadian railroads and manufacturers, especially in Ontario, where Nova Scotia miners, owing to the long haul cannot compete even with a high protective tariff in their favor."

TRANSPORTATION.

This district is rapidly forging ahead and gives promise of becoming one of the largest producer's of minerals in the province. The indications are that a large amount of capital will be invested in the Fort Steele district during the coming season, with the proper facilities for transportation a large amount of ore will be shipped, numerous companies are preparing for work, reports from all over the district are encouraging, all of which bespeak a prosperous season for the coming year. Increased transportation will be needed next season, as there will be undoubtedly a rush for the mines as soon as the season opens.

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